Elizabeth Harmon

Ms. Harmon

English 10

30 March 2012

Journals for *The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limitations of Forgiveness* by Simon Wiesenthal

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| 3/3/2012 | 5 | 13 | “At such times I was consumed by a feeling that the world had conspired against us and our fate was accepted without a protest, without a trace of sympathy.” | This seems to be the largest message in so many tragedies throughout history. Regular people become so desensitized to cruelty and suffering that, although we see the starving children in Africa (for example) on television and know they exist, we do nothing. We don’t really seem to know what we can do, so we pretend things are fine- as long as it doesn’t personally effect us. Enormous injustices in Africa or the Middle East somehow are reduced to the same level of importance as the personal lives of movie stars and sports heroes. It is this indifference that is the real tragedy. Society can never be afraid to stand against those in power to defend basic human rights. It only takes one small ripple in the still water to cause a great wave of change. |